

Jacob Edwards Library

Minutes of February 27, 2024

James Dyer called the Library Trustee meeting of February 27, 2024 to order at 12:12 PM. Present at the meeting were Trustees Gary Bridgman, Mel Blake, Bernadette Meade, Janet Jenkins, James Dyer, Dick Whitney and Liz Golz. Margaret Morrissey, Library Director, was also present. Tammie Darling was present to record the minutes.

Bernadette Meade motioned to approve the January 23, 2024 minutes. Gary Bridgman seconded. So voted.

Old Business – The chess schedule has changed from Monday to Saturday on a “drop in” basis. The Western MA Labor Association has requested a room rental. Margaret notified the group of the missing key that was not returned from the last time they rented a room. Staff has been unable to find the key. Margaret asked the group to send a letter to the Library summarizing their point of view and she will share with the Trustees for further discussion.

Financial Report – There is no financial report at this time.

Director's Report – Margaret Morrissey discussed matters of landscaping, elevator repair, HVAC, Children’s Programming and other items in the Director’s Report.

Dick Whitney motioned to accept the gift of \$250 from Suzanne Delehanty through the Miami Foundation. Mel Blake seconded. So accepted.

Janet Jenkins motioned to approve a \$45,000 contribution to the Town of Southbridge for books/materials FY '25. Mel Blake seconded.

Bernadette Meade motioned to approve the Snowshoes Lending Policy. Janet Jenkins seconded. So voted.

New Business-Margaret discussed the upcoming meeting with the Town Manager on March 11, 2024. Topics for discussion include elevator repairs, ceiling repair, gutters, weatherization, IT upgrade, led lighting, appointing a Poem Laureate – Bill Trembley.

A discussion took place regarding the E-rate USF Program, which is a program that helps schools and libraries with high speed internet access at a better price, but filters material under the Children’s Internet Protection Act. Bernadette Meade suggested that Margaret contact the two libraries that currently use the E-rate program to hear pros/cons.

FOJEL-Friends of the Jacob Edwards Library has let their 501(c)(3) status lapse and discussion took place on the possibility of obtaining the status again. James Dyer thanked Bernadette for working with FOJEL to determine status, etc.

Gary Bridgman motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:24 PM, Mel Blake seconded. So voted. The next meeting will be held on March 26, 2024 at 12:00 PM.